Increase in water tariffs

508. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase water tariffs in Delhi; if so, the details in this regard;

(b) what are the reasons warranting such a hike; and

(c) what is the extent of loss incurred per year on account of theft, wastage from public lines and non-payment of tariffs due, which are written off during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for increasing the water tariff in the area of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Committee. However, the Delhi Cantonment Board has reported that the water tariff is proposed to be revised both for domestic and commercial uses as per details given below because the present rates were fixed about half a century ago and are uneconomical;

DOMESTIC

Existing
25 Ps per K.L. upto 20 K.L.
Above 20 K.L. at 50 Ps per K.L.

Proposed
50 Ps per K.L. upto 20 K.L.
Re. 1 per K.L. above 20 K.L.

COMMERCIAL

Existing
Rs. 1.50 per K.L. upto 20 K.L.

Proposed
Rs. 2/- upto 20 K.L. and
Rs. 2.50 per K.L. above 20 K.L.

(c) Losses due to leakages, wastage, theft and a variety of other factors are around 20% of the total production of water in the Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking (DWS&SDU). Such losses in respect of New Delhi Municipal Committee are about 13-14 per cent of the total water received by them in bulk from the Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking. No dues have been written off on account of non-payment either by the New Delhi Municipal Committee or the Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking.

Technology Mission on Drinking Water

509. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to continue their efforts to implement the technology mission on drinking water;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the achievements of Government in making drinking water available to backward and tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh under this mission?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Government are continuing their efforts in implementing the programme of supply of. safe drinking water and related activities in rural areas.

(b) The main activities of the Drinking Water Mission are implementation of Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and State Sponsored Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) which relate to supply of safe drinking water to 'no source' problem villages (PVs) and raising the partially covered villages for full coverage, implementation of schemes in 55 mini mission project areas in different States/UTs, setting up of district level laboratories and mobile laboratories for water quality analysis, supply *6i* potable water through alternative schemes or by putting up water treatment facilities like desalination plants, iron removal plants, defluoridation plants etc. Water harvest-